

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 02482 111735Z

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2145

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FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC CY TU

SUBJECT: ANDREAS KASSAPIS

REF: STATE 176495; NICOSIA 2364 AND PREVIOUS; ANKARA 5634

STATE 170001

1. I PUT IN FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RETURN FROM VIENNA AND ANKARA. I SAW HIM AUGUST 11 FOR DETAILED REVIEW OF OUR SEVERAL PAST CONVERSATIONS ON KASSAPIS CASE. I REMINDED DENKTASH OF HIS PROMISE TO INVESTIGATE PERSONALLY THROUGH FRIENDS IN TOWN OF ASHA WHERE KASSAPIS WAS LIVING AT THE TIME OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE, AS WELL AS TO ACT THROUGH OFFICIALS CHANNELS. DENKTASH SAID HIS INVESTIGATION HAD CONFIRMED SEVERAL DEATHS IN ASHA AREA DURING LAST SUMMER'S FIGHTING. WHILE HE COULD NOT SPECIFICALLY CONFIRM THAT ONE OF THESE WAS ANDREAS KASSAPIS, HIS CONCLUSION WAS THAT KASSAPIS "MUST BE PRESUMED DEAD".

2. I REMINDED DENKTASH, ALSO, OF REPORT RECEIVED BY ANDREAS' FATHER THAT SON HAD BEEN HEARD CALLING OUT FROM BASEMENT OF A MAINLAND TURKISH PRISON WELL AFTER HOSTILITIES HAD CONCLUDED. DENKTASH SAID THAT, SADLY, MANY HOPEFUL PARENTS HAD PLACED THEIR FAITH IN SUCH STORIES BUT ALL HAD BEEN PROVEN GROUNDLESS. ALL COMPETENT AUTHORITIES HAD CONFIRMED NO TRACE OF ANDREAS KASSAPIS IN CYPRUS.

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 02482 111735Z

3. I ASKED, NEVERTHELESS, THAT DENKTASH MAKE FURTHER EFFORT.
HE PROMISED HE WOULD DO SO BUT SAID HE COULD NOT REALISTICALLY
HOLD OUT ANY HOPE.

4. FOREGOING MAY BE USED IN REPLY TO CONGRESSMAN BLANCHARD
OR OTHERS INTERESTED IN THE KASSAPIS CASE. I HAD ALSO
PROMISED THE FATHER THAT I WOULD MAKE THIS APPROACH AND WILL
REPORT DIRECTLY TO HIM.
CRAWFORD

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